AMENDMENTS TO SPECIFICATION

On page 6, please replace lines 18-21 with the following:

- RTT time ~~117, 118~~ from the latency probe to LDNS.
- ASN (Autonomous System Number) routing information derived from Border Gateway Protocol (BGP).
- Dynamic hop count ~~117, 118~~ from the latency probe to LDNS.

On page 7, please replace lines 5-9 with the following amended paragraph:

The latency probe 104, 106 uses a UDP Reverse Name Lookup and Traceroute to determine RTT and dynamic hop count through the paths 117, 118. Reverse Name Lookup is a standard DNS query that specifies a client IP address and asks for the client name. Traceroute is a specific format of a packet that is sent between routers to indicate if a packet has reached a destination.

On page 8, please replace lines 1-8 with the following amended paragraph:

The invention aggregates the client 208 and the higher level server DNS 207 and assumes that they are co-located. Additionally, the latency and the hop counts are measured up to the Border Gateway (BG) 206. Once the autonomous system is entered, the hop counts are not as important. The distance from the BG 206 to the client 208 is the same from either POP 201, 202 at that point. Therefore, the relevant distance is to the BG 206. In other words, the distance T1 210 and T2 211 are most likely not equal, but the distance T3 212 is the same for both POPs 201, 202.

On page 10, please replace lines 14-17 with the following amended paragraph:

The latency metric is a weighted combination of the RTT and the dynamic hop count (*e.g.*, (RTT * w1) + (dynamic hop count *w2), where w1 and w2 are relative weights). The latency metric is used to determine the server that is the most efficient for accessing a client. The invention precisely determines the hop count metric between client and server.